

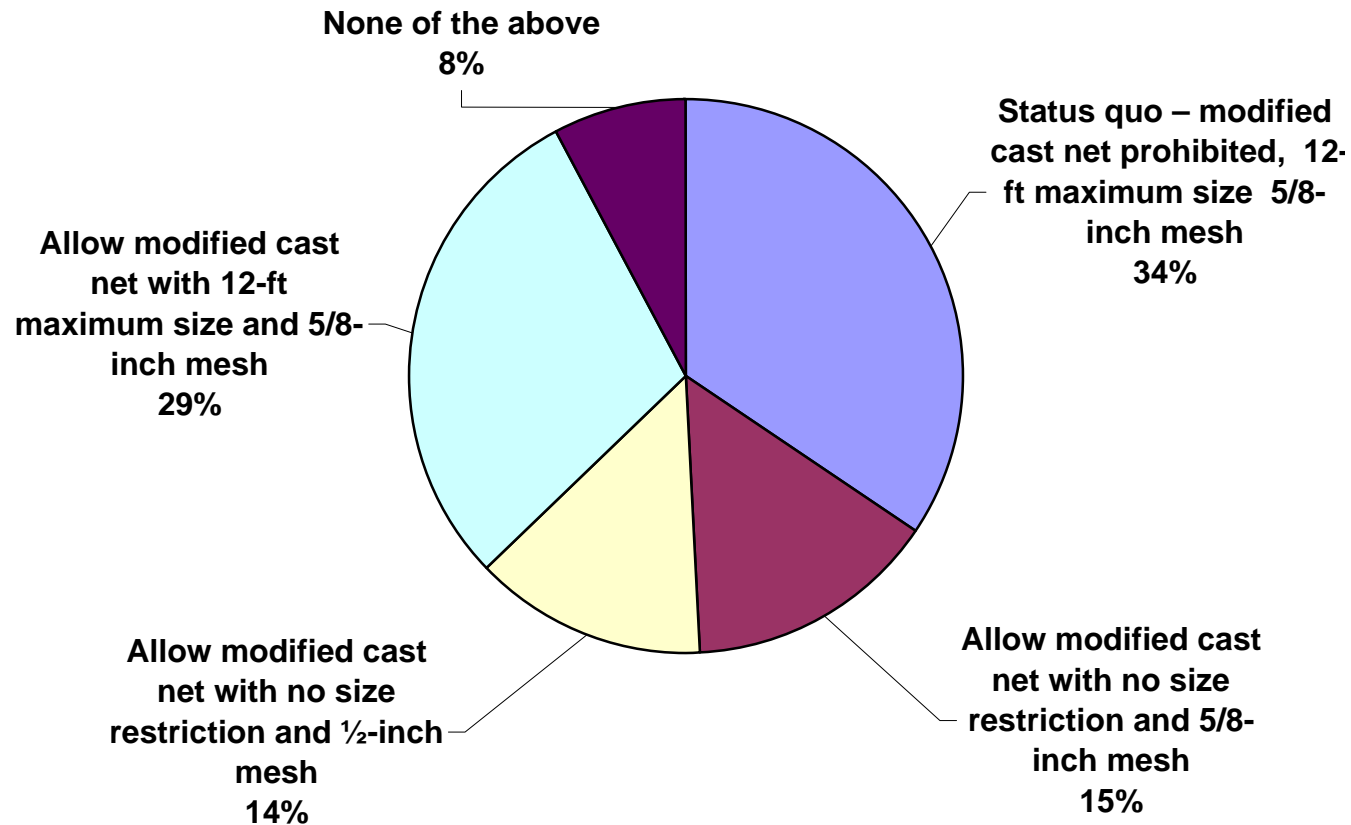
Georgia Shrimp Fishery Management Web-based Survey

9/28/05 - 11/30/05

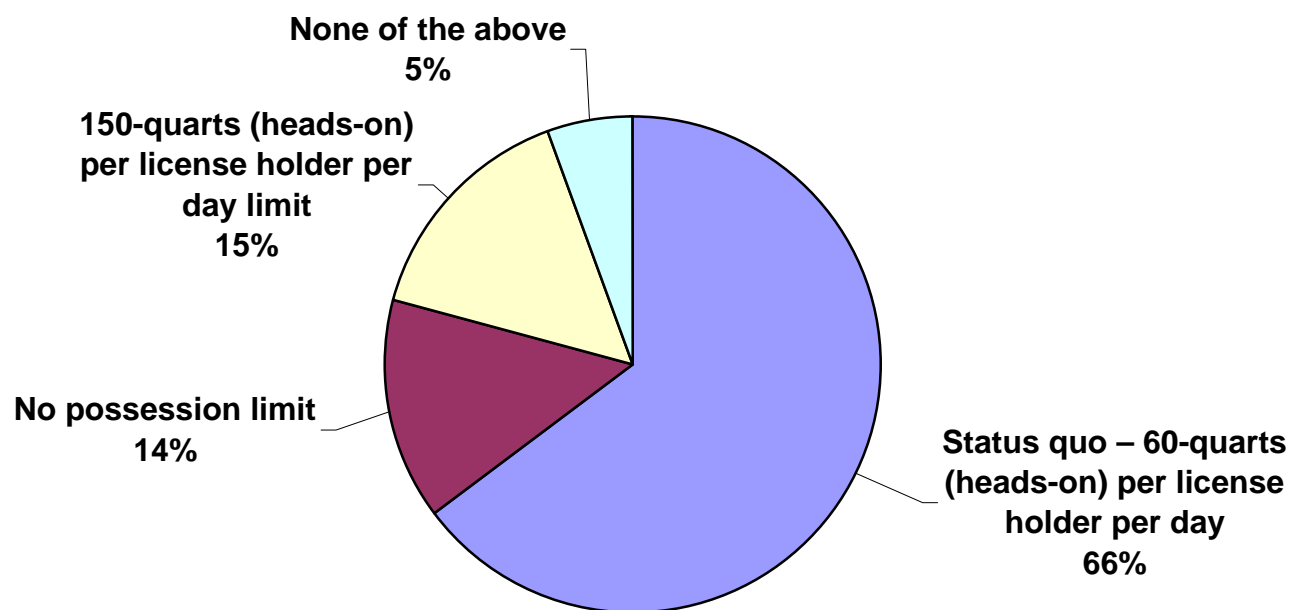
**Coastal Resources Division
Georgia Department of Natural Resources**

For more information contact Spud Woodward at (912) 264-7218

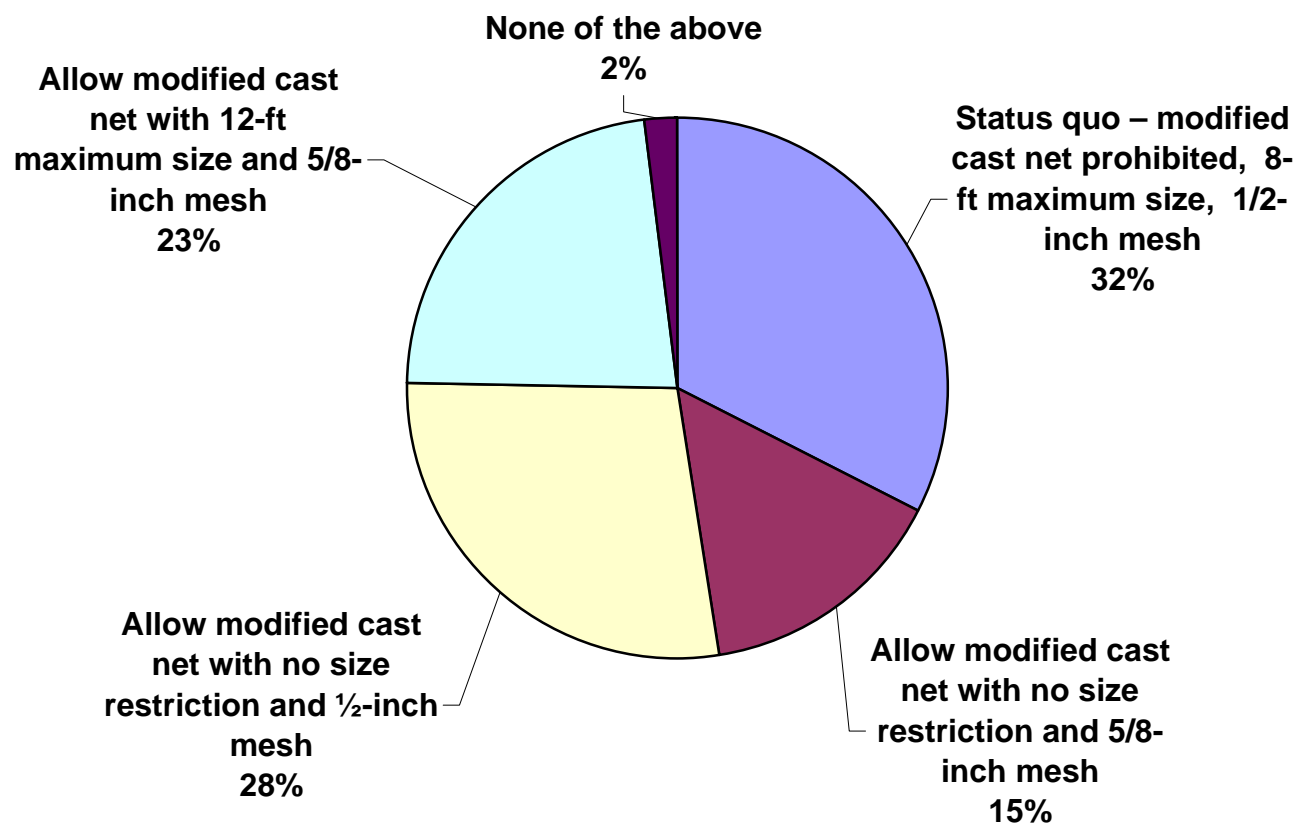
**1. Choose one of the following as your preferred option
for the commercial cast net food shrimp fishery. (n=293)**



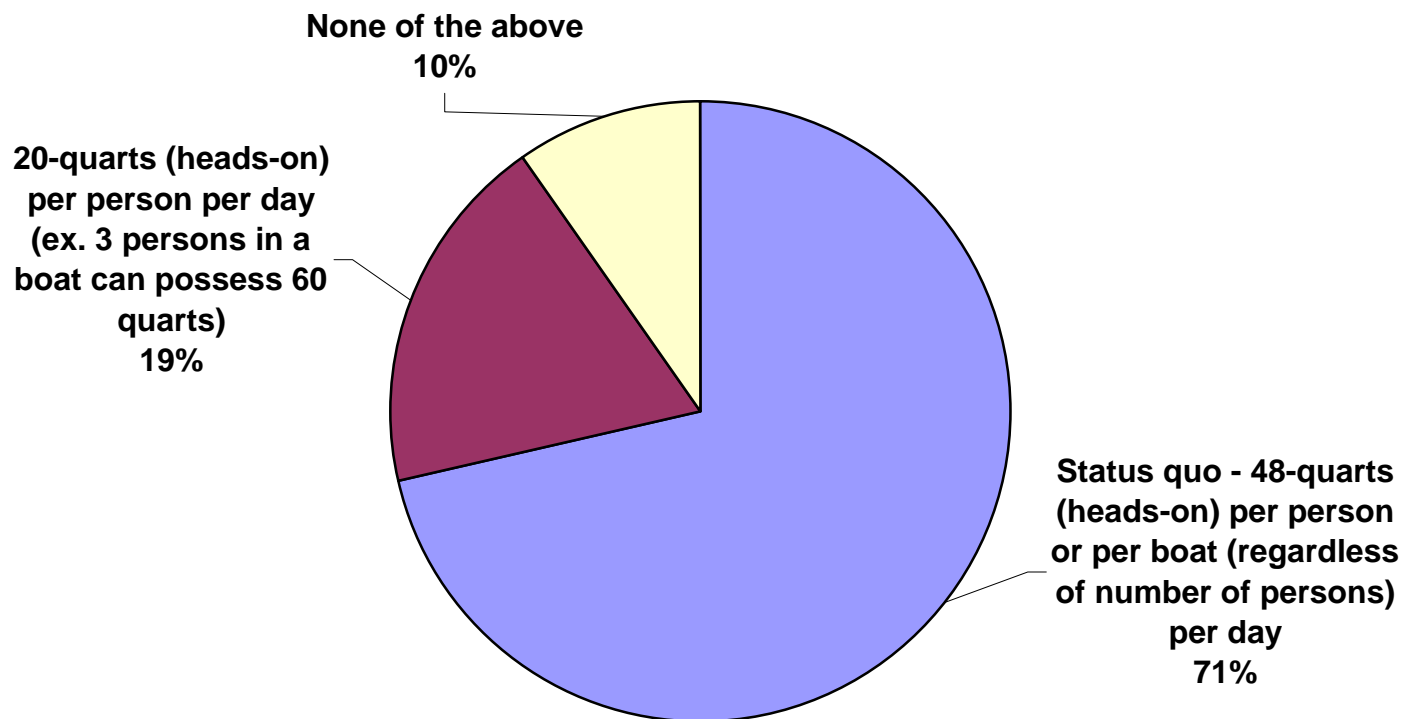
2. Choose one of the following as your preferred option for the commercial cast net food shrimp fishery. (n=292)



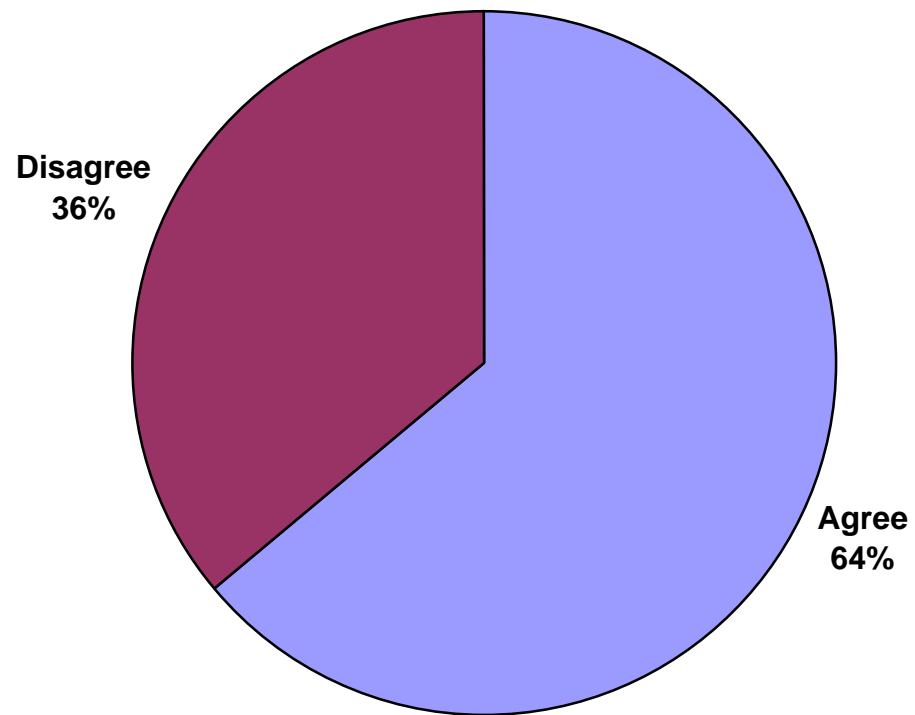
3. Choose one of the following as your preferred option for the recreational cast net food shrimp fishery. (n=292)



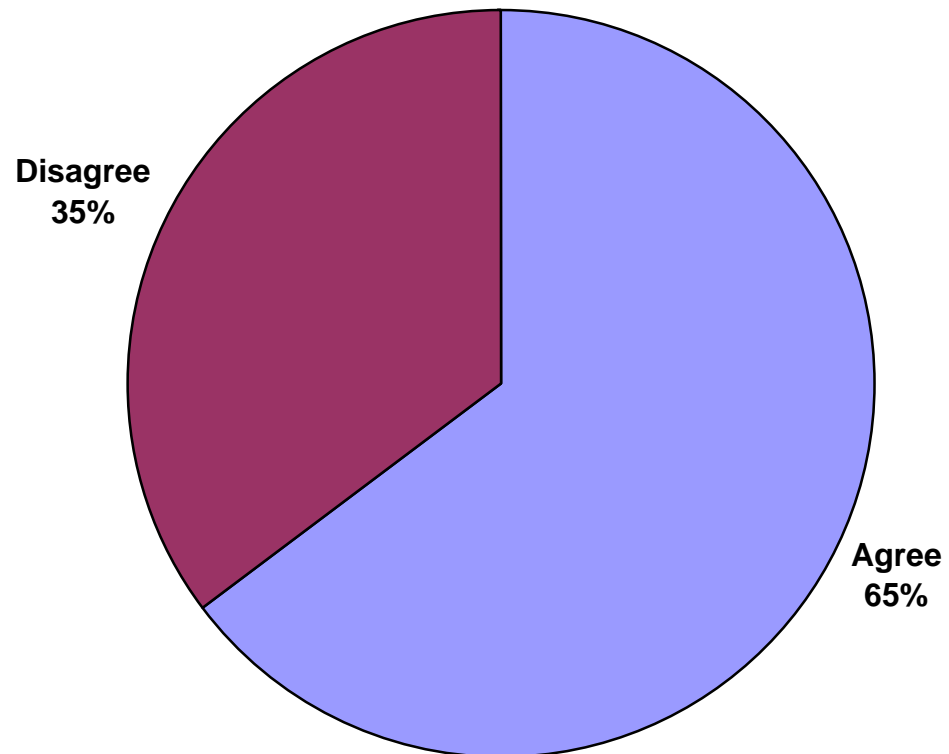
4. Choose one of the following as your preferred option for the recreational cast net food shrimp fishery. (n=295)



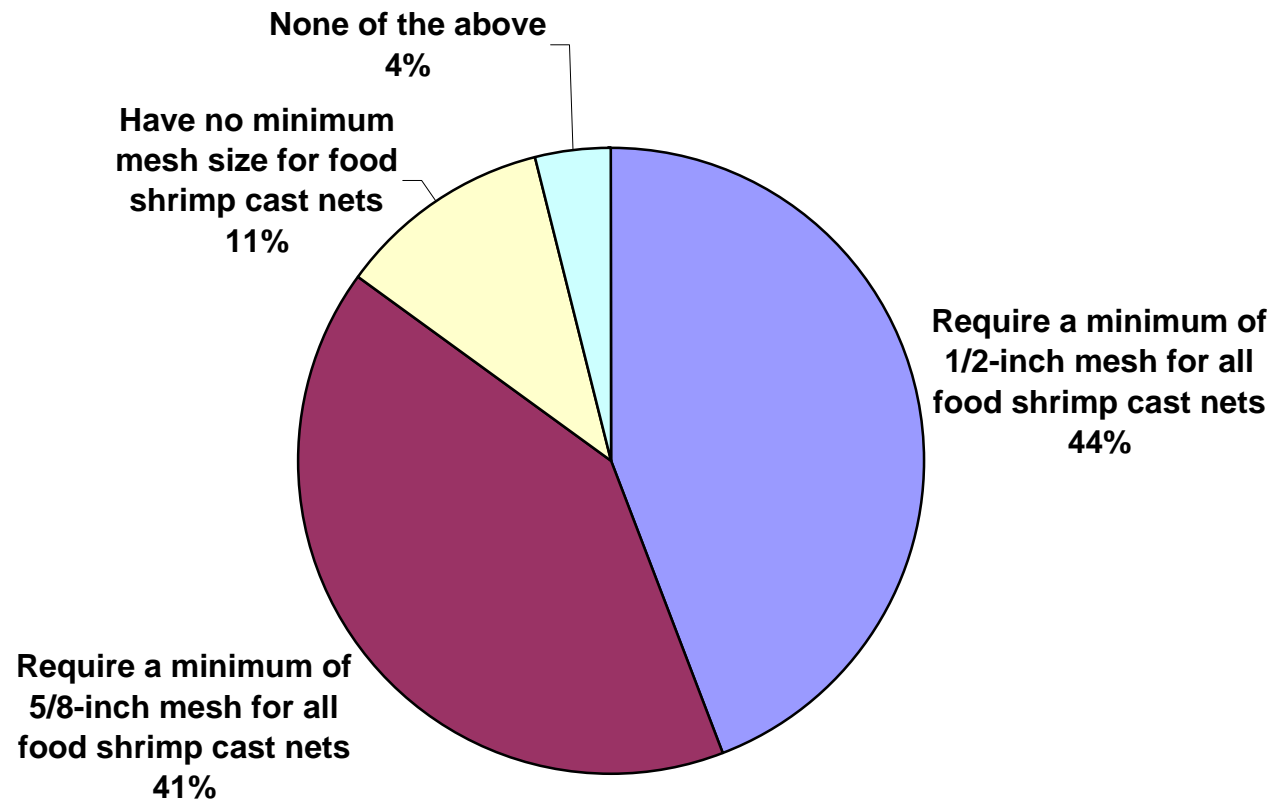
**5. Establish a stamp for the recreational cast net food shrimp fishery
(required in addition to Georgia fishing license)? (n=294)**



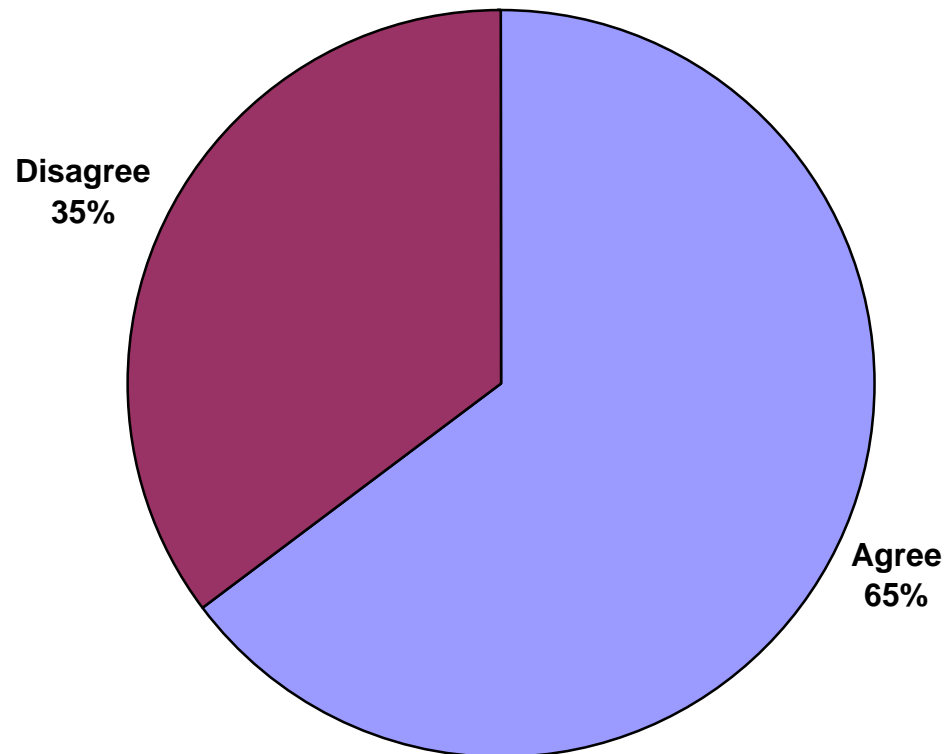
6. Allow recreational food and bait shrimp harvest 24 hours a day?
(n=301)



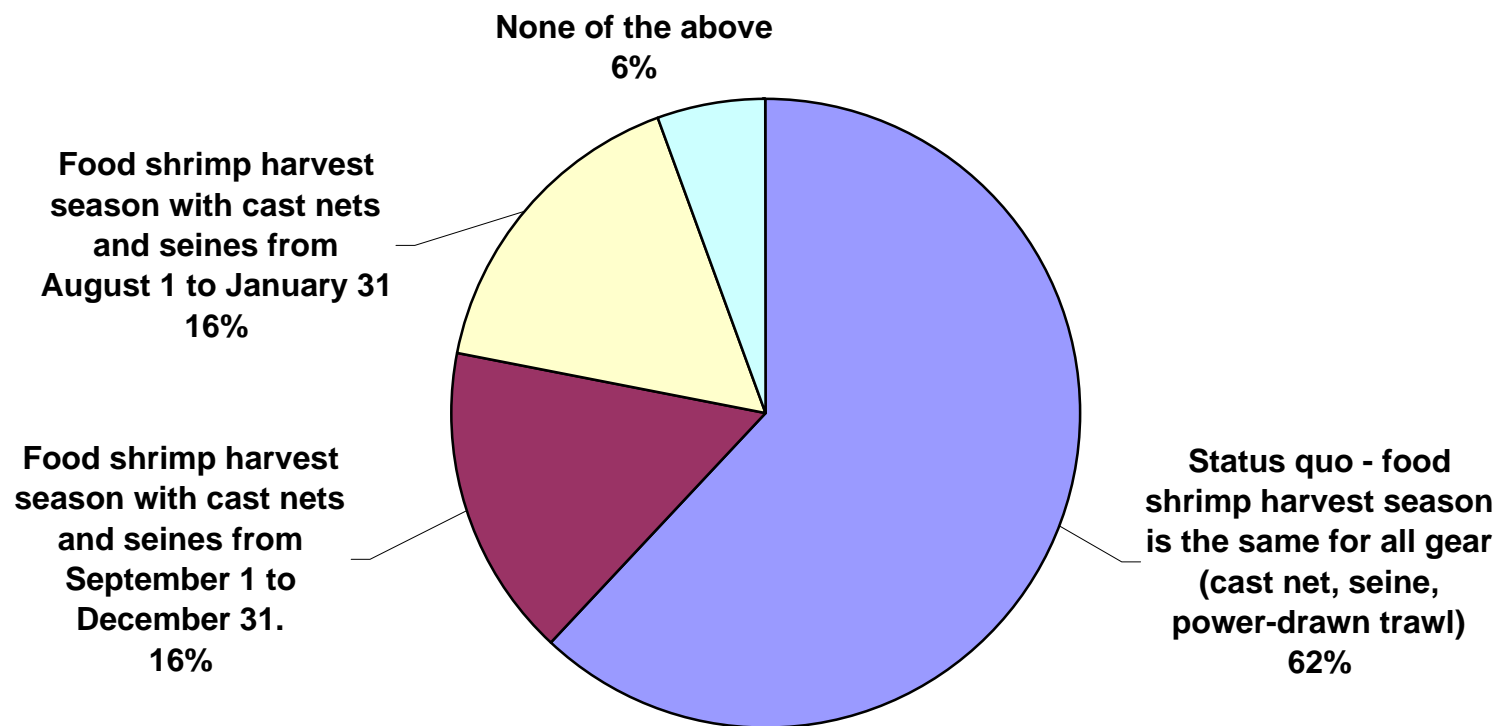
7. Choose one of the following as your preferred option. (n=288)



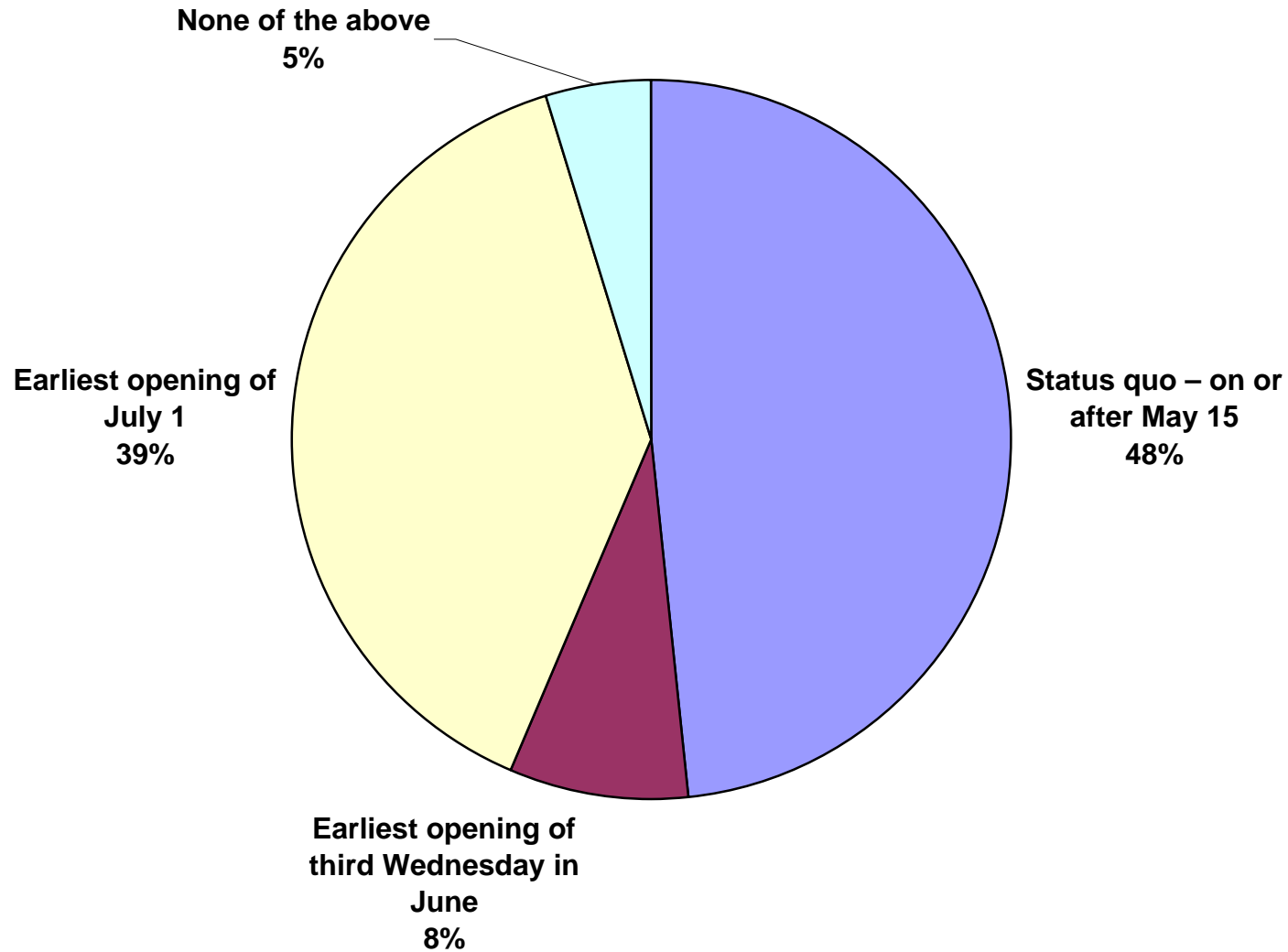
**8. Continue to NOT allow the harvest of shrimp over bait in Georgia?
(n=287)**



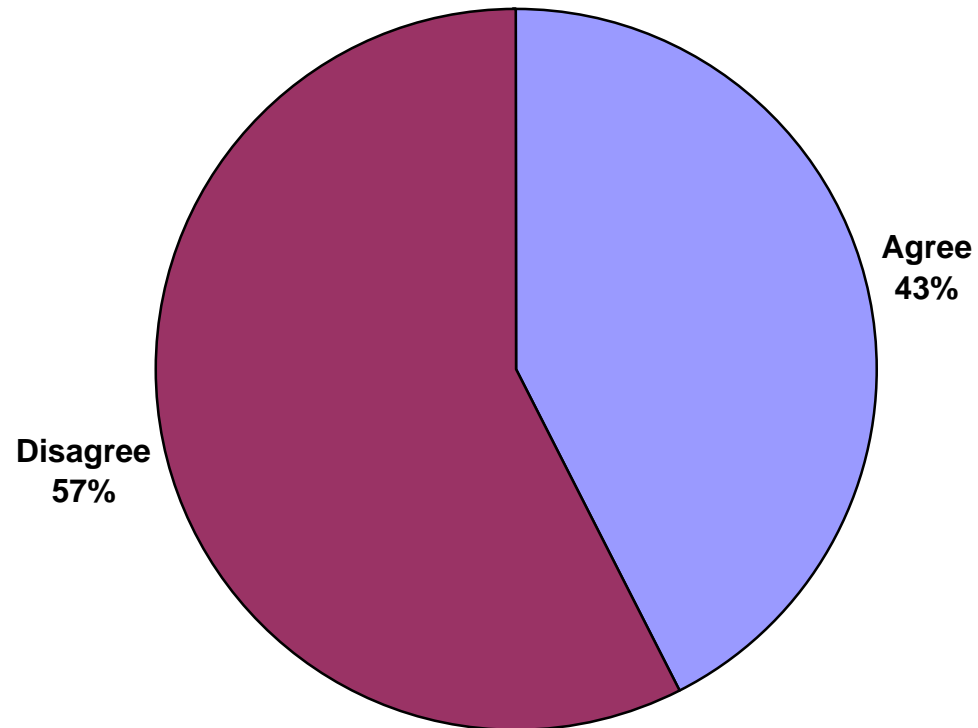
9. Choose one of the following as your preferred option. (n=288)



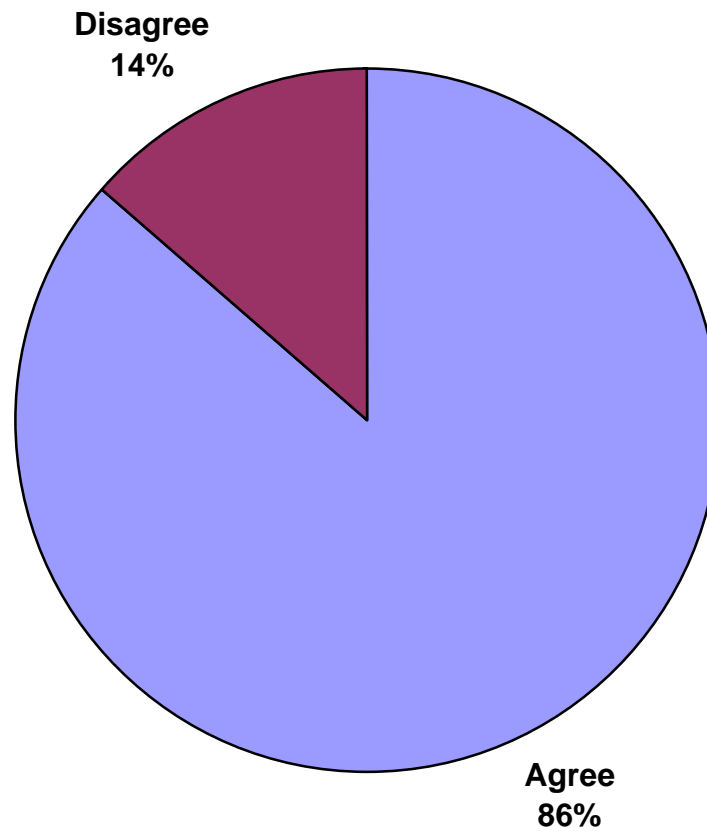
10. Choose one of the following as your preferred option for the opening of food shrimp harvest season. (n=327)



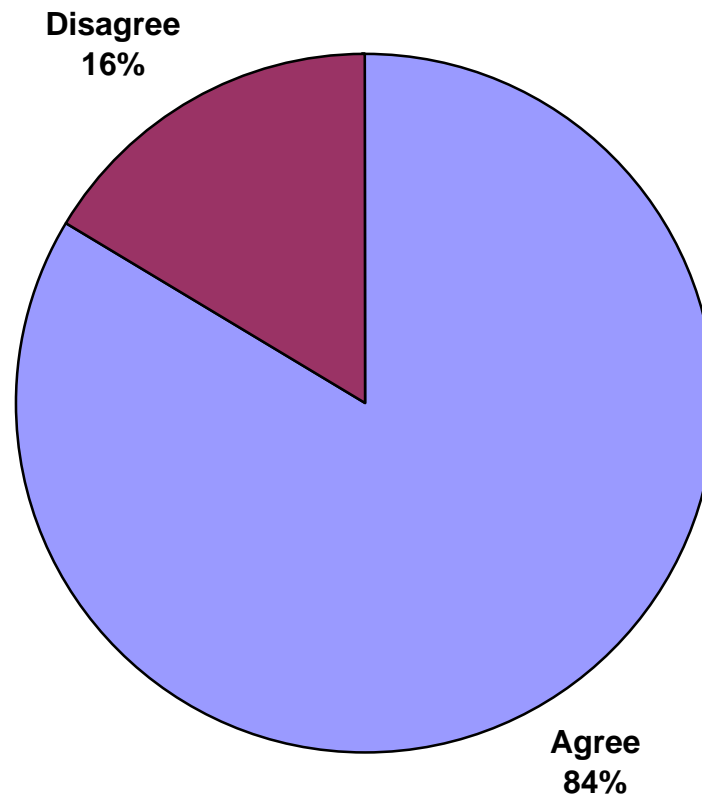
11. Allow food shrimp to be landed at facilities licensed to sell live bait shrimp? This is currently prohibited by Georgia law. (n=294)



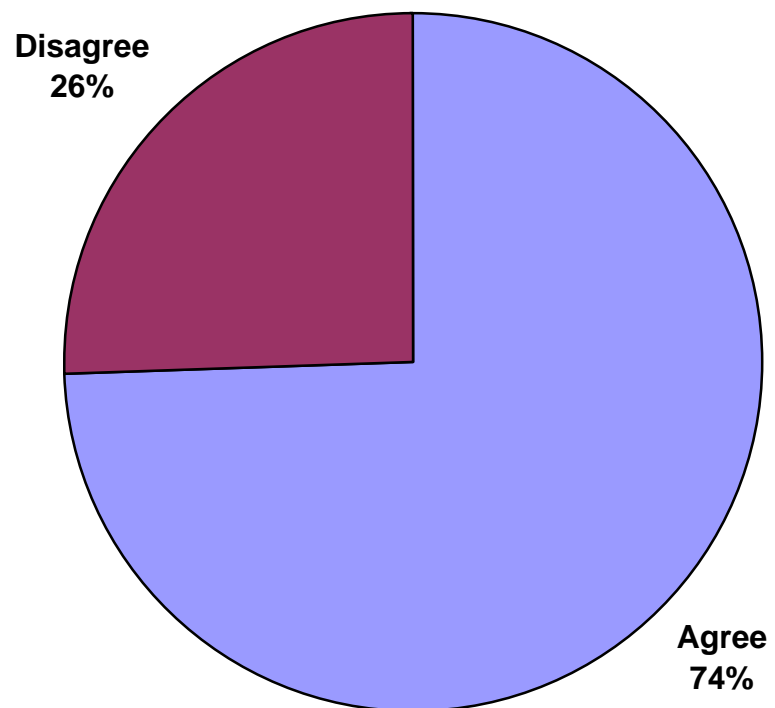
12. Permanently close Georgia's estuaries to the harvest of food shrimp with trawls. (n=325)



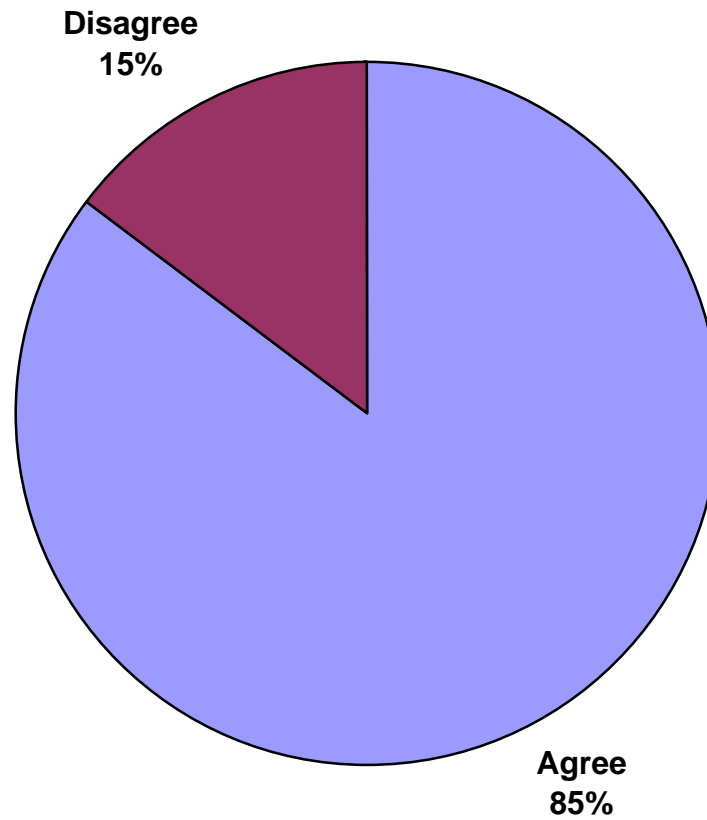
13. Prohibit the use of power-drawn trawls within one mile of the beach from May 15 to September 1? (n=325)



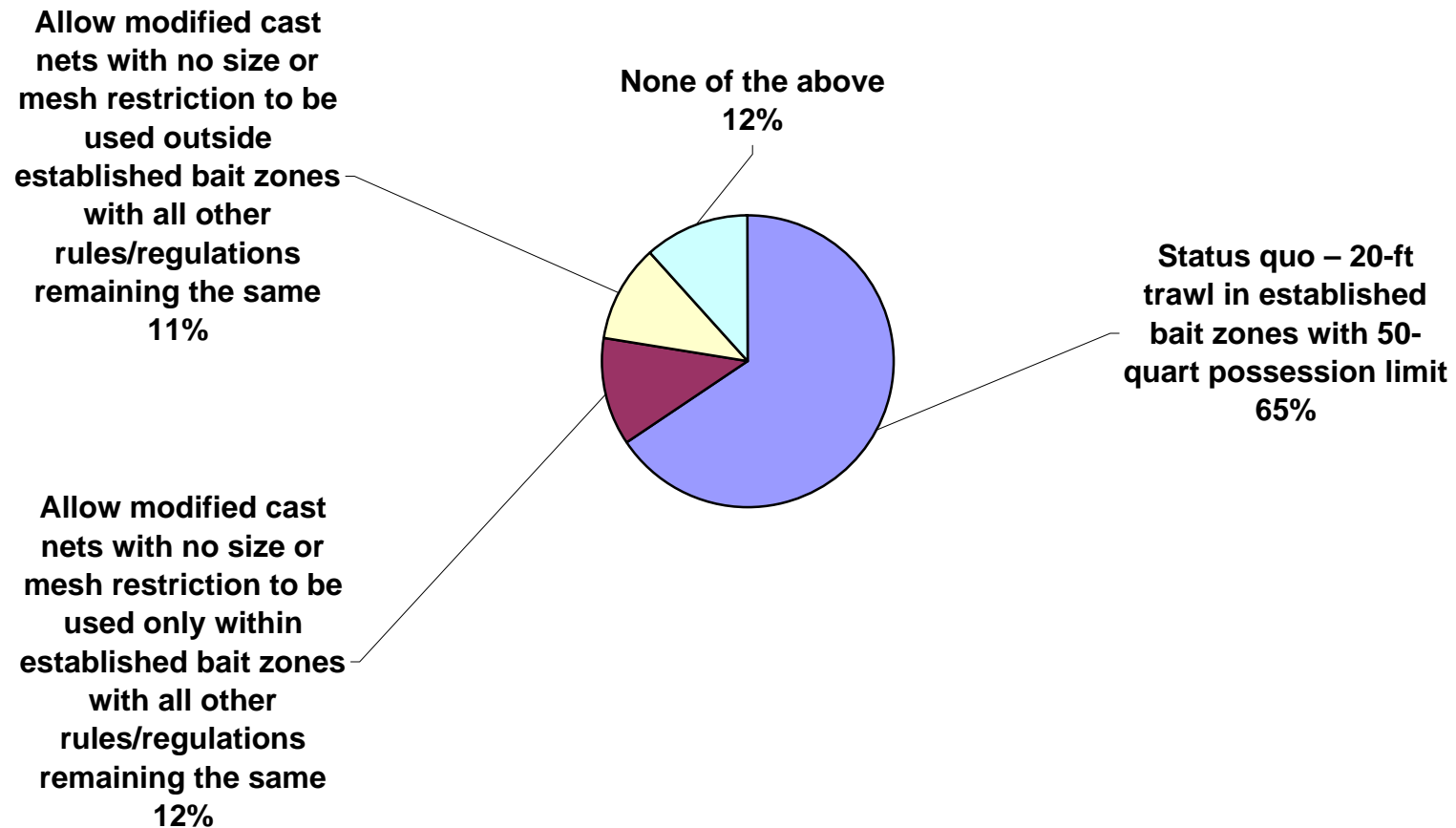
**14. Allow commercial food and bait shrimp harvest ONLY during the period from 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset?
(n=297)**



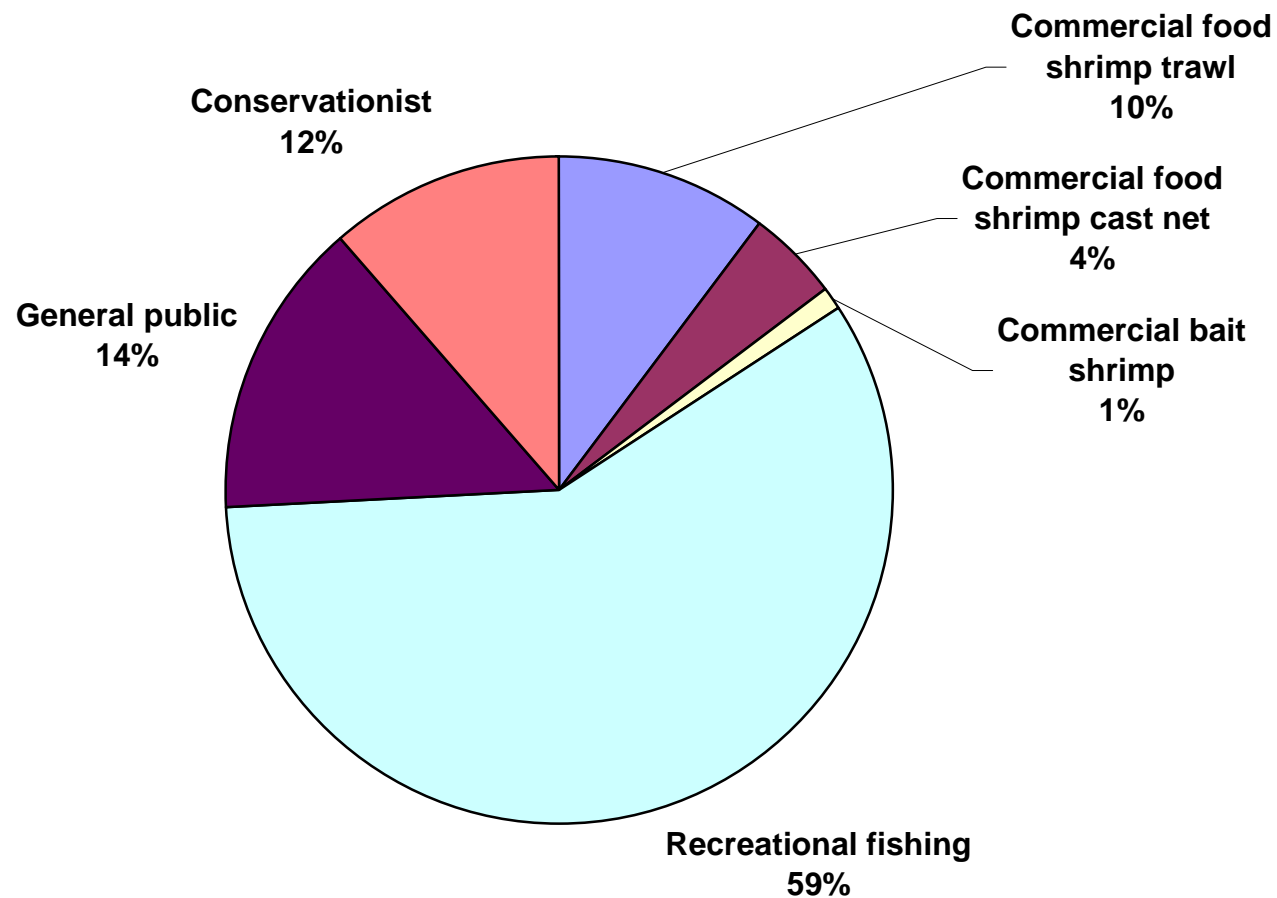
15. Cap the number of food shrimp trawler licenses at 384 (number issued in 2004-2005 license year)? (n=325)



16. Choose one of the following as your preferred option for the commercial live bait shrimp fishery. (n=285)



18. Please indicate which sector of the shrimp fishery you are most closely affiliated with: (n=252)



Question 17 – Additional comments received from web-based survey

Comments divided by sector

Commercial Food Shrimp Castnet

1. I think that castnet shrimping season should go from August 15 to March 15
2. Cast nets season open until March 31st
3. PLEASE HELP OUR COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN!
4. Tape allowed on all cast nets as indicated at the DNR is allowable in McIntosh County to be continued. Please list this web site in all local coastal papers as most do not know of its existence.

Commercial Food Shrimp Trawl

1. Designate certain areas in the sounds for 30 foot trawls with limited entry, three days a week from Aug 15th, to Dec. 1st. Some of us old Commercial Shrimpers can't throw cast nets, but it would supplement our income. Perhaps the license could be limited and done by lottery. This would make the sounds more viable, help sport fishermen by creating a better feeding environment for sport fish. (An unplowed field becomes fallow.) This would also make the shrimp migrate as they did in earlier years, perhaps preventing the black gill that is commonly seen now. I also think that drained wetlands have had a disastrous impact on our unpolluted waters, plus the fact that dock over building in smaller creeks has caused unnatural changes in our tidal system.
2. DNR has too many rules and regulations for commercial trawlers. Too many rules are already in effect. We need no more rules added because the industry is on the brink of going out of business to begin with from imports and farm raisers. Shrimpers have jobs just like DNR have jobs. And as Christians we should all know God put creatures in the sea for our nets to support our families. If people would care more about the unborn babies dying from abortion rather than a sea turtle I am sure GOD would be a lot happier. We need to get our morals straight --+May God Bless Our Industry.
3. Do not close Beaches to Commercial Shrimp Trawling... This is detrimental to our lively hood...
4. On question number 5, I agree with the stamp, but I think it should be more like \$50.00 for residents and \$150.00 for non residents.
5. Out of state residents should not be allowed to have a say in Georgia shrimp management.
6. The DNR has violated the established protocol for public hearings by conducting this electronic balloting. My understanding is that a vote was taken at the public hearing and

all the proposals were rejected by the majority. This is just another example of the DNR-CRD trying to manipulate the vote by involving environmental groups and recreational fisherman in this stakeholder group. The concept of stakeholder groups is based upon the U.N.'s Agenda 21 which is a socialist and world domination document. Yes Susan and Spud, this is George Marra letting you know that the shrimp trawling industry is fully aware of the intent of your actions and the Governor, Senate and Legislature will be fully apprised of the situation. Have a great day. By the way, Georgia Power issues dock permits within a day of application and inspection at zero cost to the property owner. Perhaps y'all could save us taxpayers money by having Georgia Power perform this function!!!!

7. This is an extremely limiting survey and should not be used to imply that reflects the opinions of the individuals involved in the fishery.
8. we do not want the beaches closed to the trawlers. e do not want the beaches closed to the trawlers

Conservationist

1. As a biologist I am aware that shrimp trawling is the single greatest threat to the recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia. The historically large number of shrimp trawlers in Georgia waters has long posed a threat to Georgia's turtle population, which is declining. In addition, turtles from Florida and the Carolinas migrate through and forage in Georgia waters. So shrimping in Georgia impacts turtles from other states. I strongly support restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery to ensure the long term protection of threatened and endangered sea turtles. Please institute a limited entry system to reduce the overall number of shrimp boats in Georgia. This is the best way to control the overall time of 'net hours' and fishing effort. In addition maintain the existing prohibition against shrimp trawling in the ecologically sensitive estuaries and restrict the areas and times open to shrimp trawling.
2. Food gathering and fishing in any industry should be balanced to do no harm to other creatures. The bottom line on any commercialism is to keep a world fit for all creatures to live. Greed only causes destruction and devastation. The governing agencies have a responsibility to all of us to maintain a livable world. I do not know the specifics on net measurements but any net should allow other creature to safely pass through. Please take care of our wild creatures. The earth is calling for balance. Thank You. Thanks.
3. I am concerned about long term protection and recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia and the US. Shrimping, although an important industry, is also a major threat to sea turtles. Sea turtles face many threats and one we can alleviate is the incidental capture in shrimp nets
4. I am concerned about the effects of shrimp trawling on the recovery of Georgia's sea turtle populations. Georgia's declining turtle population is in large part the result of our shrimping industry. I strongly support restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery to

ensure the long term protection of threatened and endangered sea turtles. Please institute a limited entry system to reduce the overall number of shrimp boats in Georgia. In addition maintain the existing prohibition against shrimp trawling in the ecologically sensitive estuaries and restrict the areas and times open to shrimp trawling. Thank you.

5. I believe more restrictions are needed on the shrimp trawling industry. Limited entry is a good idea, but I bet on any given day only 100 trawlers are active anyway. Perhaps limiting state waters to only trawls owned by Georgia residents would be more effective. Closing state waters out to 1 mile during the summer months would be beneficial to nesting female sea turtles. The best option from my perspective would be to close all of state waters from May through to September 1st to motorized trawling for shrimp.
6. I believe that shrimp fishery management in Georgia should focus on the reduction of bycatch, with special concern given to reducing the industry's interactions with protected, threatened or endangered species.
7. I would like to see the prohibition of trawling in coastal waters and more importantly, I have concerns about the negative effects on the nets' effects on sea turtles and other marine wildlife.
8. Netting kills EVERYTHING in it's path.
9. Please ensure the nesting areas for the sea turtles will be kept safe and the turtles will be released if caught by shrimping boats.
10. Require all commercial fisherman should be required to use a leatherback TED at all times.
11. Shrimp fishing is a major threat to sea turtles. I feel that we should limit the amount of shrimp caught and consumed, while promoting sea turtle conservation. Thank you
12. Shrimp trawling is devastating to the population of sea turtles from not only the Georgia area, but of turtles from other states. I work on a sea turtle conservation program in Florida and our turtles often travel northwards to the waters off of Georgia where they may encounter these trawlers. I understand the need of the fishermen involved and appreciate their concerns, but there must be compromises on both sides in order to prevent the further decline of sea turtle populations. Limiting the times and dates that fishermen are allowed to trawl is one way decrease, but not eliminate, the threats to our sea turtles
13. Shrimp trawling is the greatest existing threat to our populations of sea turtles. Populations continue to be impacted even with existing restrictions, every year during shrimp season we see many turtles of several species wash up dead on Georgia beaches. These magnificent animals need additional protection immediately to prevent their extinction.

14. Shrimp trawling is the single greatest threat to the recovery of endangered sea turtle populations in Georgia's waters. They have continually posed a threat to the declining sea turtle population. Sea turtles from the Carolinas and Florida migrate through Georgia's waters, so shrimping in Georgia impacts sea turtles from other states. I strongly support restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery to help protect endangered sea turtles. Please put in place a limited entry system to reduce the overall number of shrimp boats in Georgia. This will be the most efficient way of controlling the overall time of 'net hours'. Additionally, please maintain the existing prohibition against shrimp trawling in the ecologically sensitive estuaries and restrict the areas and times open to shrimp trawling.
15. Shrimp trawling is the single greatest threat to the recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia. The historically large number of shrimp trawlers in Georgia waters has long posed a threat to Georgia's turtle population, which is declining. In addition, turtles from Florida and the Carolinas migrate through and forage in Georgia waters. So shrimping in Georgia impacts turtles from other states. I strongly support restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery to ensure the long term protection of threatened and endangered sea turtles. Please institute a limited entry system to reduce the overall number of shrimp boats in Georgia. This is the best way to control the overall time of 'net hours' and fishing effort. In addition maintain the existing prohibition against shrimp trawling in the ecologically sensitive estuaries and restrict the areas and times open to shrimp trawling
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17. Shrimp trawling is the single greatest threat to the recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia. The historically large number of shrimp trawlers in Georgia waters has long posed a threat to Georgia's turtle population, which is declining. In addition, turtles from Florida and the Carolinas migrate through and forage in Georgia waters. So shrimping in Georgia impacts turtles from other states. I strongly support restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery to ensure the long term protection of threatened and endangered sea turtles. Please institute a limited entry system to reduce the overall number of shrimp boats in Georgia. This is the best way to control the overall time of 'net hours' and fishing effort. In addition maintain the existing prohibition against shrimp trawling in the ecologically sensitive estuaries and restrict the areas and times open to shrimp trawling.

18. Shrimp trawling is the single greatest threat to the recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia. The historically large number of shrimp trawlers in Georgia waters has long posed a threat to Georgia's turtle population, which is declining. In addition, turtles from Florida and the Carolinas migrate through and forage in Georgia waters. So shrimping in Georgia impacts turtles from other states. I strongly support restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery to ensure the long term protection of threatened and endangered sea turtles. Please institute a limited entry system to reduce the overall number of shrimp boats in Georgia. This is the best way to control the overall time of 'net hours' and fishing effort. In addition maintain the existing prohibition against shrimp trawling in the ecologically sensitive estuaries and restrict the areas and times open to shrimp trawling.
19. Shrimping is a major threat to sea turtles. Sea turtles face many threats and one we can alleviate is the incidental capture in shrimp nets.
20. Shrimping poses an undeniable threat to sea turtles in Georgia waters, in the Gulf of Mexico and elsewhere in the world. I congratulate Georgia for taking a closer look at the shrimping industry in order to achieve more responsible management and more effective stewardship of resources, many of which are shared. Over many years, I have seen the jump in sea turtle strandings in Florida that coincides with shrimp season. Regardless of state, allowing this problem to continue is incredibly short-sighted, especially with turtle population levels continuing to be precariously low. I am glad to see that Georgia is considering limiting the size of its shrimp fleet, the time allowed to fish, and the area to be fished. Georgia's shrimp fleet is very large and any eventual change in rules to safeguard Threatened and Endangered sea turtles (and other bycatch) should have a significant and positive impact. I strongly support: a) closing entry to the shrimp fleet (by capping the number of boats); b) reducing overall net hours; and c) keeping the prohibition against trawling in the incredibly valuable estuaries.
21. The decline of the sea turtle population in Georgia is unacceptable. I strongly support restrictions on the shrimp fishery.
22. The greatest threat to the recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia is Shrimp trawling. In addition, turtles from the Carolinas migrate through and forage in Georgia waters, which impacts turtles from other states. Although a conservationist, I vacation in Georgia several times a year and do eat shrimp. I do believe restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery will ensure the long term protection of threatened and endangered sea turtles
23. The recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia is threatened by the shrimp trawling industry. The large number of trawlers and method of trawling is contributing to sea turtle decline in these waters. As sea turtles are migratory, the effect on sea turtles from the shrimp industry in Georgia is affecting populations from other areas, making it an international problem. I strongly support restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery to ensure the long term protection of threatened and endangered sea turtles. Please institute a limited entry system to reduce the overall number of shrimp boats in Georgia. This is the best way to control the overall time of 'net hours' and fishing effort. In addition

maintain the existing prohibition against shrimp trawling in the ecologically sensitive estuaries and restrict the areas and times open to shrimp trawling.

General Public

1. allow any one with a GA. fishing license to catch 48 qts per boat and if they have over that limit triple the fine and take fishing license for 1 year of infraction as long as I stop at 48 qts per day why does it matter how I catch that amount I only have a day off a week so that will mean 48 qts per week
2. Georgia's shrimp fishery must be maintained, but should be done in an ecologically conscious manner. I do not believe we should sacrifice any environmentally sensitive estuaries and endangered species to increase shrimp fishery production.
3. I am concerned about over-fishing the natural shrimp population as well as further endangering local species of sea turtle due to bycatch (not to mention other sea life). I'd like to see more efforts in developing good farm-raised shrimp. I love eating shrimp, but I have no problem abstaining to prevent more money going towards tearing up the very habitat that the shrimp depend on.
4. I am concerned for the long term protection and recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia and the US. Shrimping is a major threat to sea turtles. Sea turtles face many threats and one is the incidental capture in shrimp nets.
5. I am concerned for the safety of sea turtles off the Georgia coast. Shrimp trawling is still the biggest threat to the declining population of sea turtles. I support restrictions on the number of shrimp boats and also on the hours and on the types of nets that can be used. It is important to be ecologically responsible and protect all of our natural resources to the best of our ability.
6. I believe there needs to be stronger regulations for shrimp fishing during seasons the sea turtles nest. Turtles being caught in nets continues to be a problem in Georgia and not only affect sea turtles nesting in the regions but sea turtles that nest as far away as the Caribbean on the way to nesting grounds. I think restricting the number of shrimp trawlers in general out there and limiting times of the year can help increase an already fragile turtle population. closing off the estuaries is also key. They have the whole ocean, they do not need to upset the delicate eco-balance there as well.
7. I strongly support more restrictions for shrimping to ensure the long-term protection of sea turtles. Turtle Excluder Devices should be a mandated part of the shrimping industry
8. I strongly support restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery. The shrimp trawlers in Georgia waters pose a grave threat to the sea turtle population which is rapidly declining. Restrictions need to be created and enforced to reduce the number of shrimp boats in Georgia waters.

9. I strongly support the restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery to ensure the protection of endangered and threatened sea turtles and other marine life. Shrimp trawling is the single greatest threat to the recovery of sea turtles in Georgia. Also, Important nursery habitats for commercial fish species are being destroyed. Shrimp trawls are crushing, burying and exposing marine organisms and the habitats that support them; seabed biodiversity and productivity is being changed, fish stocks are declining, millions of tons of non-target species are caught globally, marine communities are being disrupted. Sea turtles, seahorses and large slow growing species with low reproductive output are vulnerable and at a very high risk. Please institute a limited entry system to reduce the overall number of shrimp boats in Georgia. I believe this is the best way to control the overall time of fishing effort, and net hours. In addition, maintain the existing prohibition against shrimp trawling in the ecologically sensitive estuaries and restrict the areas and times open to shrimp trawling.
10. I would really like to express my concern for the ENDANGERED sea turtles that nest/swim off the coast of Georgia. The shrimping business has a huge negative effect on the marine life in that region. I am in full support of the restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery. Please institute a limited entry system, so that the number of boats will be limited. This will help in the effort of protecting our oldest living marine life. Thank you for your time.
11. I'm concerned about the incidental capture of other species in the shrimp nets. Restricting the activity to outside the estuaries needs to continue and limiting the season will help those species that migrate through Georgia's waters.
12. Increasing the overall number of boats or removing restrictions on shrimp trawling in Georgia's waters will have a very negative impact on sea turtle populations in the Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean, and Atlantic. Please keep trawlers out of estuaries and other ecologically sensitive areas.
13. Limit number of trawlers in state waters at any one time.
14. My concern is for the long term protection and recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia and the US. Shrimping is a major threat to sea turtles. Sea turtles face many threats and one we can alleviate is the incidental capture in shrimp nets. Shrimp trawling is the single greatest threat to the recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia. The historically large number of shrimp trawlers in Georgia waters has long posed a threat to Georgia's turtle population, which is greatly declining. Turtles from Florida and the Carolinas migrate through and forage in Georgia waters. So shrimping in Georgia impacts turtles from other states. I strongly support restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery during turtle season to ensure the long term protection of threatened and endangered sea turtles. Please institute a limited entry system to reduce the overall number of shrimp boats in Georgia. Please maintain the existing prohibition against shrimp trawling in the ecologically sensitive estuaries and restrict the areas and times open to shrimp trawling.

15. My family home is in Georgia, and we have owned it for five generations. I saw my very first sea turtles in Georgia, as a child. I am very concerned about the well being of these magnificent creatures, on Georgia's coast, as well as those who pass through Georgia waters from other states. Please restrict shrimp fishing in whatever ways that make the well being of sea turtles a top priority. This would certainly mean to continue not to allow shrimp trawling in estuaries. The number of shrimp boats in Georgia should be drastically and carefully limited.
16. Shrimp trawling is the single greatest threat to the recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia. The historically large number of shrimp trawlers in Georgia waters has long posed a threat to Georgia's turtle population, which is declining. In addition, turtles from Florida and the Carolinas migrate through and forage in Georgia waters. So shrimping in Georgia impacts turtles from other states. I strongly support restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery to ensure the long term protection of threatened and endangered sea turtles. Please institute a limited entry system to reduce the overall number of shrimp boats in Georgia. This is the best way to control the overall time of 'net hours' and fishing effort. In addition maintain the existing prohibition against shrimp trawling in the ecologically sensitive estuaries and restrict the areas and times open to shrimp trawling.
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19. Shrimp trawling poses a threat to Georgia's nesting turtles, as well as other migrating turtles. I support restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery to ensure the long-term survival of sea turtles. Please institute a limited entry system to reduce the overall number

of shrimp boats in Georgia. Also I urge you to maintain the existing prohibition against shrimp trawling in estuaries and restrict the areas and times open to trawling.

20. Shrimp trawling threatens sea turtles in Georgia, as well as the surrounding states as they migrate through Georgia waters. I strongly support restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery to ensure protection of sea turtles.
21. The greatest threat to Georgia's declining sea turtle population is Shrimp trawling. Also affected by shrimp trawling are turtles from Florida and the Carolinas which migrate through and forage in Georgia waters. I strongly support restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery to ensure the long term protection of threatened and endangered sea turtles. Please institute a limited entry system to reduce the overall number of shrimp boats in Georgia. This is the best way to control the overall time of 'net hours' and fishing effort. In addition, I strongly urge you to maintain the existing prohibition against shrimp trawling in the ecologically sensitive estuaries and to restrict the areas and times open to shrimp trawling.
22. The shrimp industry has a profound impact on the endangered sea turtles that nest on Georgia beaches and migrate along the coast to Florida and the Carolinas. For a number of years, I refused to eat shrimp until turtle excluder devices were made mandatory by the federal government. However, turtle excluder devices are not perfect a sea turtles still occurs as by-catch. A limited entry system will reduce the total number of shrimp boats and help to prevent the strandings of sea turtles. The regions and times open to shrimp trawling should be restricted to help in the reduction of by-catch. Man has demonstrated its negative influence on animal populations over the centuries. Also, estuaries are too fragile to allow shrimp trawling. Let the State of Georgia learn from the mistakes of the others that rendered animal populations extinct for the sake of temporary gains
23. There should be more strict punishment for shrimpers who do not use proper TEDs. Their license should be immediately revoked. People will not follow laws unless harsh punishment will result from breaking them.
24. We need to do everything possible to help the sea turtle population recover in Georgia. These regulations do not adversely impact the shrimp trawlers, and will help the turtle populations recover. This also impacts the migrating turtles up and down the east coast. It has further impacts than just Georgia's coastline. I support all the regulations that helps protect the turtles recovery.

Recreational Fishing

1. #3 above: A recreational shrimper rarely uses a cast net over 8 feet in length. The net dimensions should be no greater than 8 feet with the allowance of a modification. The modification should be one line of 4 inch wide tape one inch above the weight line. No other modifications allowed.

2. recreational shrimpers are not hurting the shrimp population. Allow shrimpers to get their limit easier and be strict on the limit.(48 qt)
3. #11 if this happens then there want be no were to dock our boats #2 needs to be limits or the shrimping in the estuaries is over for the rec, castnetter #8 what is the difference between two hours and ten hours if the catch limits are upheld and enforced #18 there is a lot more economic impact from the recreational sportsman(who buys licenses to pay DNR salaries) ,and a lot more voters than the commercial people
4. #4 48qts or 20 qts per person
5. 48qts or 20qts per person
6. allow bait
7. Allow shrimping over bait for a shorter period then the regular season. establish a bait season in October for 30 days. Require a stamp or fee for this. Leave the limit the same and enforce it.
8. Castnets are far better on the finfish population than trawlers hands down. Why and or how can DNR justify the killing of millions of pounds of all types of finfish by the trawlers. South Carolina allows shrimp baiting and has for years , and they seem to have more shrimp to catch than we do in GA. I would like to see DNR give written justification to support their findings and or new regulations concerning castnetting shrimp.
9. Castnets do not harm the environment and have a negligible impact on the shrimp resource. A modified net should be allowed.
10. Castnets do not harm the resource. Let people fish. Let the little guy make a few bucks. It won't hurt anybody.
11. Close the shrimping season to commercial harvest with trawls for a period of five years to allow stocks of ALL marine life to rebuild.
12. Commercial fishing has been and still is one of the greatest threats to sea turtles in Georgia. As a long time Georgia resident and one who has spent many days and weeks working and vacationing on Cumberland, Little Cumberland, Little St Simons, Jekyll, and other barrier islands of the GA bite I have first hand knowledge of the strandings of turtles that occur during shrimping season. Standing on the beach on Cumberland late at night during the beginning of shrimping season gives one a vivid picture of the extent of the shrimping effort. Shrimp boats can be seen lining the entire horizon from north to south. In one night I a have counted over 70 boats. It is easy to see why shrimpers catch turtles, their boats literally create a wall of death off shore. I enjoy shrimp and I enjoy cast netting . But the issue is one of excessive effort and of balance. Currently the balance is in favor of the commercial fishery at the expense of the long term recovery of

the turtle population. Please do what you can to limit the number of vessels, tow times, and overall catch effort of the Georgia Coast. It is the responsibility of the state to ensure the protection of not only the turtles that nest on Georgia's beaches but also those turtles that migrate offshore and come to forage in your estuaries. Respectfully, Gary Appelton

13. Commercial cast netters hit holes for winter holdovers. Aren't these your egg layers for the next season? Shrimp baiting season like S.C. Would add money to coastal regions during off season. Regulate heavy, all proceeds go to DNR.
14. Eliminate by catch with commercial trawls and by catch with nets off beach
15. For recreational shrimping the nets should be 5/8 mesh with 12' max. size limit if modified, however, if they are not modified they should remain as they presently are 1/2 mesh with 8' size limit.
16. For the recreational castnet shrimper I do not understand the need to regulate the means by which shrimp are caught. 60 quarts is 60 quarts regardless of the size net used. The same goes for commercial castnet shrimpers as far as net restrictions. In addition it should not matter what equipment, i.e. castnet or trawler, a person chooses to use to make a living with and be restricted by the equipment used. Commercial castnetters should not be limited in their catch.
17. Have no restrictions on castnet size and modifications but require a minimum mesh size of 5/8' on commercial and recreational castnetters. As the result of castnet restrictions on modifications, shrimpers are Castnetting in shallow waters catching the juvenile shrimp that could have matured into adult shrimp. The daily shrimp harvest limits needs to be strongly enforced.
18. I believe we should focus on limits for recreational harvesters rather than methods. Allow for several methods with a fee structure and have incredibly high penalties for violators. Penalties could include forfeiture of license and confiscation of equipment. This would help to ensure fishermen observe the limits.
19. I DO NOT THINK TRAWLERS SHOULD EVER BE ALLOWED TO DRAG IN SOUNDS,RIVERS,OR WITHIN 1 MILE OF BEACH FRONT
20. I think that non residents (question # 5) should pay much more, \$250.00 seems fair. The people from out of state, especially Florida, really rape our resources. I personally have witnessed this in Sapelo Sound
21. I think that this survey should be publicized in every local newspaper so that the results of a 'true survey' might be realized.
22. I think the stamp idea would be good if you only put it on non residents and the price of the stamp needs to be raised substantially

23. I would suggest the price for non-resident shrimp license to increase to at least 250.00 and resident fee to increase to at least 20.00. Additionally, the money received from the shrimp stamps go directly to the DNR to help them in procuring new boats and help to maintain the current equipment within the DNR to help ensure their reliability to enforce the established limits and license requirements.
24. I'm concerned for the long term protection and recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia and the US. I strongly support restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery to ensure the long term protection of threatened and endangered sea turtles. Please institute a limited entry system to reduce the overall number of shrimp boats in Georgia.
25. In my opinion the price of the shrimp stamp should be higher than \$3.00. Considerably higher.
26. In our area bait shrimpers sell bait shrimp to local persons for consumption not as bait. This has been happening for many years.
27. Increased possession limit for rec. shrimpers to 100qt head on.
28. It appears that there is more concern and enforcement of regulations on recreational shrimping than there is on the commercial side.
29. It appears these actions will reverse the injustice bestowed upon the castnetters in the late 1990's. But it may be going too far. The castnet fisheries appear to be going from heavily regulated to not regulated at all (throw anything, anytime, keep as much as you want). Give them the gear with higher catch limits, but limit the season to August/September to December 1. Commercially trawlers are a dying breed - regulations, imports, and fuel costs will eventually reduce the fleet - let them die a slow quiet death without DNR putting the 'nail in the coffin'.
30. It would help people like myself, that is medical retired with CHF and COPD, to have and eat fresh shrimp.
31. Laws need to be written and enforced that prohibit trawlers from coming within 3-4 miles of the beach and out of the sounds.
32. Let the little guy shrimp. He's not hurting the environment or the shrimp population
33. More laws need to be taken off the books when it comes to the recreational fisherman
34. Set no limits on castnet size and modifications but require a minimum net mesh size of 5/8' and enforce the daily limit of shrimp on recreational and commercial shrimpers.
35. Several years ago I attended meetings to discuss the use of modified cast nets. It did not take me long to determine that the recreational food castnetters didn't stand a chance

against the more organized commercial shrimping industry. It was trawlers versus castnetters, both commercial and recreational food castnetters, unfortunately the recreational castnetter had no say and no power. We are the people of Georgia and we should have the right to harvest shrimp for our consumption without undue regulations being placed on us. Do away with commercial castnetting and let the citizens harvest shrimp using modified nets. South Carolina allows both baiting and modified nets and still has better shrimping than Georgia, so I must assume that all the arguments about depleting the shrimp population if you allow modified nets are unfounded.

36. SOUNDS LIKE YOUR GOING IN THE RITE DIRECTION SHOULD BE OPEN AT NIGHT FOR US FOLKS WHO CANT GO DURING THE DAY MUCH THANKS

37. Stop the killing of bay-catch in the bays/sounds

38. THANK YOU FOR this survey

39. THE STATE OF GEORGIA SHOULD NOT PENALIZE COMMERCIAL CASTNETTERS BY LIMITING THE USE OF MODIFIED CASTNETS AND LIMITING THE AMOUNT OF SHRIMP TO BE HARVESTED IN A 24 HR. PERIOD. TRAWLERS ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE AMOUNT THEY CAN HARVEST, WHETHER THEY ARE GA. RESIDENTS OR NOT. CASTNETTERS ARE THE MOST ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY OF ALL, BYCATCH IS ALMOST NON EXISTENT WITH CASTNETTERS, WHILE TRAWLERS HAVE EXTREMELY LARGE AMOUNTS OF BYCATCH WHICH DESTROYS THE ENVIRONMENT. IT WOULD SEEM THAT THE DNR WOULD PROMOTE CASTNETTING IF THEIR OBJECTIVE IS TO REALLY PROTECT THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF OUR STATE. GEORGIA'S NATURAL RESOURCE OF SHRIMP SHOULD NOT BE ADVANTAGEOUSLY GIVEN TO THE GROUP THAT HAS THE BIGGEST POCKET BOOK, WHICH IS NO DOUBT THE LARGE TRAWLING INDUSTRY, WHO CONSISTS OF MANY OUT OF STATE RESIDENTS. PLEASE CONSIDER THE RESOURCES THAT GOD HAS GRACIOUSLY GIVEN OUR STATE TO BE AN ASSET THAT OUR RESIDENTS CAN USE TO OUR BENEFIT.

40. When a shortage occurs, close all shrimping in rivers, and near beaches for at least one season, until population can be re-established this should affect all shrimping except bait shrimpers.

Unknown Sector

1. I would like to strongly emphasize to permanently close Georgia's estuaries to the harvest of food shrimp with trawls
2. Continue efforts to reduce by-catch of trawls.
3. Eliminate all trawling in our oceans and estuaries because of the damage to our environment

4. For recreational food and bait shrimp harvest I believe the restrictions should focus on possession limits rather than gear types. The requirements for having separate types of net aboard for bait vs. consumption are cumbersome and overly complicated. I think the rules for net possession and use should be simplified and enforcement of a possession limit, say 48 qts per boat (live for bait or dead for food), should be rigorous.
5. I am concerned for the long term protection and recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia and the US. Shrimping is a major threat to sea turtles. Sea turtles face many threats and one we can alleviate is the incidental capture in shrimp nets.
6. I am very concerned about the shrimping harming the sea turtles. They are sometimes caught in the nets and die. The sea turtle population in Georgia is drastically declining, and, as sea turtles around other states migrate through that area, their populations are also declining.
7. I am concerned for the long term protection and recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia and the US. I think that shrimping is a major threat to sea turtles. Sea turtles face many threats and one we can alleviate is the incidental capture in shrimp nets.
8. I HAVE SEEN THREE DEAD TURTLES CLOSE TO TRAWLING ALLEY CLOSE TO THE BEACH. THIS ALONE IS REASON TO GET THE TRAWLERS AWAY FROM THE BEACH. THERE ALSO NEEDS TO BE A STIFFER FINE AND MORE PATROLLING TO STOP THOSE WHO ARE EXCEEDING THE LIMITS. IT IS NOTHING TO SEE ROGUE CASTNETTER TO HAUL SEVERAL COOLERS OUT THEN ANOTHER ETC.
9. I make the six hour round trip to throw my castnet 2-3 times per year for recreation and the opportunity to get together with family and friends for what has become a tradition. From the standpoint of regulation, I favor the simplicity of governing everything on the basis of 'bag limit'. The job of checking coolers with a quick check of other items, would not add to what the DNR officer has to do and with less attention to net size, the job may actually go quicker. Length of season for recreation is already a self limiting time frame since we can't go very often and we limit those times to when the shrimp are moving out through the sound. I oppose the idea of an increase in out of state fees. My out of state brother-in-law who comes with me once a year already pays the higher license fee and will probably stay home if you make it that much more expensive. A permanent ban on trawlers in estuaries is a must. However, let them do what they need to do in order to make a living in the open ocean. Recreational castnetters are not the problem for any commercial users of the resource. The farm raised, quick frozen, cheap imports are the problem. A ban on those would solve everything and if the legislators and regulators could get a spine, there wouldn't be a problem. The 'wild caught' shrimp should be the commercial 'gold standard' and they ought to market it that way. Please try to keep it fun for those of us who do this for recreation.
10. I want the Number of shrimp on the Ga coast to be healthy. I think the expert know what options will hurt the shrimp populations the most and the least. I do not want one

group to have an unfair advantage over the other. I wish there was a way to track shrimp. Could you make it so that you would have to purchase a DNR cooler to carry your shrimp. That way you could not have a person shuttle the shrimp back and forth. Your cooler could match your boat numbers.

11. I'd like to take the opportunity to stat my concerns about the effects of shrimping on the sea turtle population in GA and the US. Sea turtles already face threats that we cannot control and they shouldn't have to overcome the threat of man as well. Please take the other animals shrimping affects into consideration.
12. If you enforce possession limits gear restrictions are not necessary.
13. Imported shrimp have hurt this industry ,the value of our shrimp will rise once we eliminate the sale of imports in our state. I don't believe the trawlers or castnetters are not hurting this industry.
14. Monitor the development of lands adjacent to marsh areas and require all developed areas with more than ten (10) residences to install and maintain water treatment facilities. My greatest fear is that a flood will ruin our waters by fecal contamination.
15. more enforcement of catch limits. get the trawlers off the beach.
16. Need to have more enforcement on commercial trawlers - and less on recreational - have been 'harassed' twice while fishing to check net and ice chest but have never seen a commercial trawler checked despite them being in same area shrimping –
17. open sounds once every other year to plower grounds as you have done in planting.
thank you
18. Please allow cast nets to be taped with duct tape
19. please protect the sea turtles. I STRONGLY SUPPORT THE PROTECTION OF SEA TURTLES AND RESTRICTIONS ON THE GEORGIA SHRIMP INDUSTRY.
20. re write the laws, or do whatever, so McIntosh will have to comply with the net mod rules. Better yet, get that judge off the bench.
21. Save the sea turtles
22. shrimp harvest season should be later than July
23. Shrimp trawling is the greatest threat to the recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia. Not only does it impact Georgia's sea turtle population, turtles from Florida and the Carolinas migrate through and forage in GA waters. So the shrimping practices of GA impact a large portion of the sea turtle population along the southeast coast. I strongly support restrictions on the GA shrimp fishery to ensure the long term

protection of threatened and endangered sea turtles. Please institute a limited entry system to reduce the overall number of shrimp boats in GA. This seems the best way to control the overall time of 'net hours'. Also, maintain the existing prohibition against shrimp trawling in the ecologically sensitive estuaries and restrict the areas and times open to shrimp trawling. Thank you!

24. Shrimp trawling is the primary threat to the recovery of sea turtle populations in Georgia. The large number of shrimp trawlers in Georgia waters poses a threat to Georgia's declining turtle population. Also, turtles from Florida and the Carolinas migrate through Georgia waters. So shrimping in Georgia impacts turtles from other states. I strongly support restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery to ensure the long term protection of threatened and endangered sea turtles. Please institute a limited entry system to reduce the overall number of shrimp boats in Georgia. This is the best way to control the overall time of 'net hours' and fishing effort. In addition maintain the existing prohibition against shrimp trawling in the ecologically sensitive estuaries and restrict the areas and times open to shrimp trawling.
25. Shrimping at night is the only time the wind allows some of us to cast. 48qts is the limit, enforce this and allow us to catch them with out restrictions. The commercial trawlers have had to much say so in the regulation of recreational casters for to long.
26. State that shrimping is a major threat to sea turtles. Sea turtles face many threats and one we can alleviate is the incidental capture in shrimp nets.
27. Stop the beach trawlers. Limit the amount on commercial castnetters or shrimp will be a thing of the past. Enforce the limits more. Allow bait because what if you catch the limit in two hours or ten hours what's the difference. Stiffer fines for over the limits.
28. The greatest threat to the recovery of Georgia's sea turtle population is shrimping. There is a large number of shrimp trawlers, thus there is a huge threat on the sea turtle population. Not only are Ga sea turtles in danger but the populations of other state's turtles are declining as well; they swim through Ga's waters. We can avoid this problem by enforcing stronger restrictions on the Ga shrimp fishery. This will help protect threatened and endangered sea turtles. I STRONGLY support restrictions to the Ga shrimp fishery. There should be a limited entry system to reduce shrimp boats in Ga.
29. the imported shrimp into Georgia is more of a problem than is castnetters or trawlers .stopping the illegal sale of shrimp by people without commercial license should also help the industry gain a higher value for our shrimp.
30. The large number of shrimp trawlers in Georgia are a threat for sea turtles which are endangered and the numbers declining. Sea turtles migrate through Georgia waters along with turtles from the Carolinas and Florida. This is also where they forage. Shrimp trawling is the biggest threat for these beautiful reptiles. There should be strong restrictions on the Georgia shrimp fishery along with maintaining the current prohibitions. They deserve our help in maintaining and increasing their population.

They are not nuisances nor do they threaten our existence. Lets have the same respect for them.

31. To whom it may concern: I believe that if an area is closed to one it should be closed to all. Commercial cast-netter's should be held to the same standard as a commercial trawler, if they are allowed to harvest in closed bottom then so should the Trawlers. If this is done then there should be no limits imposed on the cast-net industry. If the beaches are closed to trawling then they should be closed to cast-netters and recreational fishermen. What is suppose to be good for one should be good for all. This is all Public Property, and is being maintained by tax money from all groups. I do not want the beaches permanently closed to commercial trawling or any other group at any time, it is not fair to punish one group just to please Mrs. Shipman. I also think that if this is a public survey as you say, that you don't need to know if I am affiliated with any person or group.
32. We desperately need to stop the habitat destruction being done by shrimp trawls within 3 miles of shore.